

Three Little Kittens. (A Fact.)

Three little kittens, so downy and soft,
 Were cuddled up by the fire,
 And two little children were sleeping aloft,
 As cosy as heart could desire;
 Dreaming of something ever so nice—
 Dolls and sugar-plums, rats and mice.

The night wore on, and the mistress said,
 "I'm sleepy, I must confess,
 And as kitties and babies are safe in bed,
 I'll go to bed, too, I guess."
 She went upstairs, just a story higher,
 While the kittens slept by the kitchen fire.

"What noise can that be?" the mistress said.
 "Meow! meow!" "I'm afraid
 A poor kitty-cat's fallen out of bed!
 The nice little nest I made!"
 "Meow! meow!" "Dear me! dear me!
 I wonder what can the matter be."

The mistress paused on an upper stair,
 For what did she see below?
 But three little kittens, with frightened air,
 Standing up in a row!
 With six little paws on the step above
 And no mother cat to caress or love!

Through the kitchen door came a cloud of smoke!
 The mistress, in great alarm,
 To a sense of danger straightway awoke:
 Her babies might come to harm.
 On the kitchen hearth, to her great amaze,
 Was a basket of shavings beginning to blaze.

The three little kittens were hugged and kissed,
 And promised many a mouse;
 While their names were put upon honour's list,
 For hadn't they saved a house?
 And two little children were gathered tight
 To their mother's heart ere she slept that night.

—House and School Visitor.

It is apparent that familiarity with the English Bible as a masterpiece of literature is rapidly decreasing among the pupils in our schools. This is the direct result of a conception which regards the Bible as a theological book merely, and thereby leads to its exclusion from the schools of some states as a subject of reading and study. We hope for such a change of public sentiment in this regard as will permit and encourage the reading and study of the English Bible, as a literary work of the highest and purest type, side by side with the poetry and prose which it has inspired and in large part formed.—*Recommendation of Nat. Educ. Association, 1908.*

Making Passe-Partout Frames.

The art shops now have on sale the materials for making passe-partouts, in the way of coloured cardboard for the mat, and granulated paper, corresponding in tint, for the binding. The glass may be purchased for a few cents at a glazier's or paint shop, where it will be cut to any required size.

Measure the size of the picture selected, and calculate an appropriate size for the mat, making the measurements all around equal, drawing the lines by a correct rule, and allowing the inside edges of the mat slightly to overlap the edges of the print, so that it will be well covered. Cut out the mat, carefully following the pencil lines with a specially sharpened knife or the point of an ink-eraser. Trim off any ragged or uneven edges with sharp scissors, and fasten the mat to the print with paste at the outer edges, laying it under a weight to dry. It is rather a difficult matter to cut the mat accurately, and it is better to have it done at a shop where pictures are framed.

For the back, cut a piece of heavy pasteboard the exact size, and mark off one or two tiny slits, according to the size of the picture, two-thirds of the distance from the top. Small brass rings are used for hangers and are strung on narrow ribbon about two inches long. The ribbon, doubled over the rings, is passed through the slits and gummed down on the inner side of the back. Now glue the mat to the back, bringing all edges evenly together, and again lay it under weights to dry. In the meantime cut strips from the binding paper about seven-eighths of an inch wide, no less. Lay all parts evenly together, and bind them lengthwise with strong cord to hold them firmly. Gum the binding strips, and press smoothly and evenly along each side of the glass at about a quarter-inch width, then bind the edges over on the back, and smooth them down as firmly as possible. Remove the cord, bind the top and bottom in the same manner, and carefully mitre the corners.

The cardboard may be bought for twenty cents a sheet and the binding paper for five cents, and five or six prints of moderate size may be framed from one sheet. Library paste is the best to use, as it dries quickly and the paper never loosens afterward.—*N. Y. Tribune.*